

Denali State Park Winter Recreation Update

Friday, January 8, 2010

Attention Snowmobilers: Denali State Park is open to snowmobiles. Snowmobiles must have a valid State of Alaska Registration to operate on public lands.

For the weekend, temperatures are forecast to range from 5-20 degrees with Northeast winds around 10-20 mph. Winds from the north can transport a lot of snow on Kesugi and Curry Ridges. If traveling in the Alpine, be cautious of wind-loaded areas on leeward slopes and gullies. Park Rangers gather information for these updates from weather stations in the Tokositna River Valley, Little Coal Creek, and on the ground measurements.

Along the Parks Highway, Denali State Park snow depth is averaging 26 inches at the Alaska Veteran's Memorial. Lake ice depths exceed 14 inches where sampled; shallow overflow should be expected; expect water or limited ice on creeks. The Tokositna Weather Station is reading an average of 36 inches of snow.

Access to and parking for the three Byers Lake Public Use Cabins is from the Veteran's Memorial at mile 147 of the Parks Highway. The gate into the campground is closed and there is no vehicular access available.

If you have any information on recreation, snow conditions, park issues, or would like to be added to the mail out list for updates please contact Ranger Jason Nielsen at jason.nielsen@alaska.gov.

For information on Public Use Cabin availability in Denali, please call 907-745-3975 or check online at www.alaskastateparks.org. To check our recorded hotline, please call 907-761-3786